

Minutes of the First Meeting of the Human Trafficking Task Force, Subcommittee on Education and Training

Monday, May 7, 2012 11 AM Family Justice Center, Boston

Attending: Lisa Goldblatt Grace, Kelly Nee (BPD), Pi Hazeltine (MSP), Anne Sheetz (DPH), Geline Williams (MDAA). For the Attorney General: Liam Lowney, Kimberly Henry

1. Call to order. Co-Chair Grace called the meeting to order at 11 AM.
2. Overview of Training Landscape/Setting Priorities.
 - a. This subcommittee's mandate focuses on three target groups – the schools (administrators/teachers/parents), law enforcement (police/prosecutors/advocates), and health and social service providers. Given the Attorney General's proposed schedule of subcommittee presentations to the Task Force, the group decided to focus first on schools, and then turn its attention to law enforcement and human services by late summer or fall 2012.
 - b. Regarding the current HT training landscape, there is a lot of training being presented to the target groups that touches on HT issues and there is no need to "reinvent the wheel". Rather than start its work with a survey of what is currently being done, the group decided instead to address the question of HT training standards/best practices: what core information should any HT training program contain? To that end, the group identified the following basic content that should apply to any HT training/education program:
 - i. Victims:
 1. How to identify Vs
 2. Victim dynamics: understanding that victims are in fact *victims*
 3. How to respond
 4. Referring the victim to resources
 - ii. Denial:
 1. Breaking through the initial reaction of "we don't have that problem here"
 - iii. The Law:
 1. What the new HT law means and what it requires of the trainees
 - iv. Sex and labor trafficking: while the vast majority of HT crimes relate to the sex trade, any core curriculum must also address labor trafficking.

3. The group also sketched out the basic process it will follow in developing recommendations for HT training to schools, law enforcement and health/social services:
 - a. Who needs to be trained?
 - b. What do they need to know? (the standards or best practices issue)
 - c. What is the best format and curriculum for reaching that particular audience?
 - d. How to work within the organization (e.g., schools) to get the curriculum delivered?
 - e. Is anyone/any entity already providing training to this audience? If so, does it meet core standards? Can it be supplemented/retooled to meet this need? Where are the training gaps?
 - f. What does research tell us about each of the above?
4. Next Steps:
 - a. Regarding schools, the committee's mandate is to recommend the types of information that administrators, teachers and parents need to identify and assist HT victims and to keep children safe online. The committee will need guidance from within DOE on how to best implement a curriculum within the schools, including whether to piggyback on existing training material. By the May 22 meeting, committee members will reach out to experts within DOE, and to school nurse and school resource officer organizations, with the goal of having school experts attend the June 12 meeting. Members will also reach out to trainers within the 11 DA offices to explore the possibility of expanding current 51A mandated reporting trainings to include HT material.
 - b. This committee must ultimately file a report (by Summer 2013) of its formal training recommendations, and the committee may elect to attach a prototype training curriculum to its report. Several members will start preparing an outline of that report, which the group can flesh out with each successive meeting.
 - c. Lisa will see if she can find an intern to attend the committee meetings, take notes and prepare minutes, and assist with research.
5. Adjourned: Upon proper motion made and seconded, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 12.45.

Next meetings:

May 22, 2012 BPD, 10-12

June 12, 2012 FJC, 10-12